WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

    1. A computer system comprising:

    a server operable to interface with a network, the server comprising a component that is assigned a media access control (MAC) address; and

    a target operable to interface with the initiator, the target comprising a worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

    2. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein:

    the MAC address comprises a forty-eight bit MAC address; and

    the world wide name comprises a sixty-four bit world wide name incorporating the forty-eight bit MAC address.

    3. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the target comprises a disk drive.

    4. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the target comprises a tape drive.

    5. The computer system of Claim 1, further comprising an application module associated with the server, the application module operable to generate the worldwide name.

    6. The computer system of Claim 1, further comprising an application module associated with the server, the application module operable to:

read the MAC address from the component;

assign a vendor specified identifier to the target; and

generate the worldwide name by appending the vendor
5   specified identifier to the MAC address.

7.   The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the MAC
address comprises:

a company identification field; and
10   a first vendor field.

8.   The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the
worldwide name comprises:

the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:

a company identification field; and
15   a first vendor field;

a second vendor field; and

a network address authority field.

20   9.   The computer system of Claim 1, further
comprising a plurality of targets operable to interface
with the network, each target comprising a unique
worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

25   10. A computer system comprising:

a server operable to interface with a fibre channel
network, the server comprising a network interface card
(NIC) having a media access control (MAC) address;

a storage device interfaced with the server; and

     an application module associated with the server
application module operable to generate a worldwide name
for the storage device, the worldwide name incorporating
the MAC address.

5   11. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the
MAC address comprises:
     a company identification field; and
     a first vendor field.

10   12. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the
worldwide name comprises:
     the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:
          a company identification field; and
          a first vendor field, the first vendor field
15 comprising a first vendor specified identifier;
     a second vendor field, the second vendor field
comprising a second vendor specified identifier; and
     a network address authority field.

20   13. The computer system of Claim 12, further
comprising the application module operable to:
     read the MAC address of the NIC;
     assign the second vendor specified identifier to the
storage device; and
25   generate the worldwide name for the storage device
by appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC
address.

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14.   The computer system of Claim 10, further
comprising a plurality of storage devices interfaced with
the fibre channel network.

5   15.   The computer system of Claim 14, further
comprising the application module operable to generate a
unique worldwide name for each of the plurality of
storage devices by incorporating the MAC address with a
selected unique identifiers .

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16. A method for generating worldwide names
comprising:

reading a media access control (MAC) address for a
network interface card (NIC) associated with a server
5   operable to interface with a network;

identifying a target interfaced with the server;

assigning a vendor specified identifier to the
target; and

appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC
10 address to create a worldwide name for the target.

17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising:

reading a forty-eight bit MAC address from the NIC;;

assigning a sixteen bit vendor specified identifier
15 to the target; and

the worldwide name comprises a sixty-four bit world
wide name incorporating the sixteen bit vendor specified
identifier and the forty-eight bit MAC address.

20   18. The method of Claim 16, wherein the network
comprises a fibre channel network.

19. The method of Claim 16, wherein identifying the
target comprises identifying a storage device.

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20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:

identifying a plurality of targets interfaced with the network;

assigning a unique vendor specified identifier to each of the plurality of targets; and

appending each unique vendor specified identifier to the MAC address to create the worldwide name for each of the plurality of targets.